ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A load management system and method for controlling the activation sequence and times of activation of motor vehicle occupant restraints when a high g event , such as a crash, occurs. The system includes a microprocessor that processes inputs from a number of devices including seat weight sensor, an occupant spatial position detector, a buckle status detector, a belt sensor. The microprocessor is driven by a load management procedure that includes a high g event routine that controls the activation sequence of restraints so that the automatic locking restraint is first activated, followed by the pre-tensioner and then by the air bag. The load management procedure also includes an enable/disable procedure that controls the enabling and disabling of the restraints according to a number of variables including occupant weight, seat buckle status and belt extension status.